

DISTRICT FIRE CHIEF

(Promotional Class)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

This class encompasses highly responsible positions in fire department operations, the primary duty of which is managing the fire suppression activities of the department on an assigned shift. An employee of this class may be assigned the duties of the Fire Chief in the Chief's absence. The District Fire Chief responds to all fire alarms received on the assigned shift and directs emergency scene activities. Employees of this class also have the primary responsibility for supervising the subordinate personnel on their assigned shift, for assisting the Fire Chief in providing for the care and maintenance of department equipment, vehicles and property, and for providing for the training of department personnel. Different levels of events will require employees in this class to report to work in situations where those in other classes would not be required to report. District Fire Chiefs have the authority to work independently and have their work reviewed by the Fire Chief. This class ranks directly below that of the Fire Chief.

EXAMPLES OF WORK

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Manages all department operations on an assigned shift, including making decisions on officer deployment and distribution of units. Performs the duties of the Fire Chief in the Chief's absence. Recommends goals, objectives, and management policies for the department. Participates in the research and planning for programs and activities of the department. Conducts inspections of various divisions of the department, evaluates the effectiveness of the divisions, and takes appropriate action to correct or improve problem areas. Monitors and evaluates local conditions which may become fire or safety hazards. Keeps informed on modern fire fighting methods and administrative practices. Participates in conferences, conventions, and other educational meetings as required. Recommends changes in department operations that will help the city improve ISO ratings. Assists the Fire Chief in preparing the departmental operating budget. Gathers information to be used in budget preparation.

Investigates all accidents involving department equipment or personnel. Determines the cause of accidents and makes recommendations on procedures to avoid future accidents. Investigates complaints against department personnel and

formulates a recommendation for reply to the complaint or a recommendation for action to be taken. Participates in developing a personnel recruitment and selection program, interviews prospective employees, and makes recommendation on hiring.

Responds to all alarms or emergency calls for which the department is answerable, either in person or through a designated subordinate. Performs size-up and directs subordinate employees in rescue, forcible entry, ventilation, nozzle and hose handling, protection of exposures, fire extinguishment, pump operations, sprinkler and standpipe systems, water supplies, salvage and overhaul, and emergency medical services. Takes charge of all safety procedures at the scene of a fire or emergency. Personally acts as part of the fire attack team. Maintains communications between the fire scene and other authorized personnel. Handles emergencies involving hazardous materials.

Develops a training program for the department and sees that such program is properly staffed and supplied with training resources. Provides for regular employee training at all levels within the department by evaluating training needs and providing department training or outside training to meet the needs. Personally trains personnel by conducting training in the classroom or by conducting drills and evolutions in all areas of fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, inspection, investigation, and safety.

Supervises subordinate fire department personnel. Holds meetings for the purpose of receiving reports and disseminating information. Inspects the appearance of assigned equipment and personnel. Assigns duty areas and work schedules and approves leave. Oversees and evaluates the work performance of subordinates, writes employee evaluation reports, and discusses work performance with subordinates. Provides assistance to subordinates in technical areas of work and counsels employees who are experiencing work problems. Resolves employee complaints and grievances. Maintains discipline by counseling employees and recommending disciplinary action to the appointing authority. Provides informal or "on-the-job" training for new employees.

Investigates the causes, origins, and circumstances of fire occurring within the jurisdiction. Secures the fire scene and collects and labels evidence of suspected arson. Assists arson investigation personnel in the investigation of arson fires. Testifies in court when required.

Makes decisions concerning what information should be included in all records of the department and determines in what form this information should be kept. Supervises the preparation and maintenance of all department records by reviewing records completed by subordinated and by periodically inspecting systems

and facilities for keeping the records. Completes any forms and records required, including pre-fire plan records, payroll records, and LFIRS reports. Compiles and organizes data needed for reports and writes reports necessary to document the operation of the assigned shift. Writes reports and requests for grants and other special funds to aid in the operation of the fire service.

Supervises the general care and maintenance of firefighting apparatus and equipment, vehicles, property, and communications equipment. Arranges for needed repairs and maintenance, and inspects equipment, property, or operating systems after repairs to see that repairs were properly accomplished. Writes specifications for new fire department equipment, prepares for public bids, and oversees the bidding process.

Informs the public about the work of the fire department by means of tours, talks, demonstrations, and distribution of literature to schools and civic groups. Coordinates special projects designed to improve the public image of the fire department. Acts as department representative to the news media.

Performs any related duties assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements listed below must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the test.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States and upon confirmation, a qualified elector of the state of Louisiana.

Must possess a valid driver's license.

After offer of promotion, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a physical examination, the selection and administration of which shall be authorized by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Must have seven (7) years of emergency services, public safety experience in a full-time, paid position, with a minimum of five (5) years of fire suppression experience.

Must possess a National Registration certification as an Emergency Medical Technician - Basic.

Before being confirmed must be a certified Fire Investigator 1, Fire Inspector 1, Fire Officer 1, and Fire Instructor 1.

In order to meet required response times, incumbent must be a resident of the City of Gonzales prior to confirmation.